

REMARKS

This is in response to the Office Action dated September 24, 2007. In view of the foregoing amendments and following representations, reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Initially, in response to the objection to the disclosure on page 1 of the Office Action, the specification and abstract have been reviewed and revised, and a substitute specification and abstract has been prepared. No new matter has been added. Also enclosed is a “marked-up” copy of the original specification and abstract to show the changes that have been incorporated into the substitute specification and abstract. The enclosed copy is entitled “Version with Markings to Show Changes Made.”

Next, by the above amendment, claims 16-18, 20-25 and 27-30 are amended; and claims 19 and 26 are cancelled. Thus, claims 16-18, 20-25 and 27-30 are currently pending in the present application.

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that claims 19, 22, 24 and 26 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Accordingly, in order to place the present application in condition for allowance, the claims have been amended as follows:

claim 16 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 19;

allowable claims 22 and 24 have each been amended to include all of the limitations of base claim 16; and

claim 25 has been amended to include the limitations of allowable claim 26.

Further, the remaining claims (i.e. claims 17, 18, 20, 21, 23 and 27-30) depend from one of the allowable independent claims, and are therefore allowable at least by virtue of their dependencies.

Further, by accepting the allowable subject matter, the rejection of claims 16-18, 20, 21, 23, 25 and 27-30 over the prior art is now rendered moot.

In view of the above, it is submitted that the present application is now clearly in condition for allowance. The Examiner therefore is requested to pass this case to issue.

In the event that the Examiner has any comments or suggestions of a nature necessary to place this case in condition for allowance, then the Examiner is requested to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney by telephone to promptly resolve any remaining matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Asbjorn AARVIK et al.

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